

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1-13. (Cancelled)

Please add new claims 14-33 as follows:

14. (New) A headrest controller for moving a headrest of a vehicle seat toward a head of a passenger comprising:

a headrest and an object positioned adjacent the headrest;

a head position detecting unit including a first sensor to detect a distance between the object and the headrest, and a second sensor for detecting contact between the object and the headrest; and

a control circuit to alter movement of the headrest based on a detection signal from the head position detection unit.

15. (New) A headrest controller as in claim 14, wherein the first sensor is a plurality of sensors.

16. (New) A headrest controller as in claim 14, wherein the first sensor is a capacitive type sensor.

17. (New) A headrest controller as in claim 14, wherein the second sensor is a plurality of sensors.

18. (New) A headrest controller as in claim 14, wherein the second sensor is a contact type sensor.

19. (New) A headrest controller as in claim 14, wherein the head position detecting unit is provided in the front part of the headrest.

20. (New) A headrest controller comprising:  
a crash detecting sensor for predicting or detecting a crash to a rear of a vehicle;  
a headrest driving mechanism for moving part or whole of a headrest toward a head of a passenger to reduce the distance between the headrest and the head;  
a head position detecting unit including a first sensor to detect a distance between the head and the headrest, and a second sensor for detecting contact between the head and the headrest;  
a control circuit for operating the headrest driving mechanism when the crash detecting sensor outputs a detection signal and altering movement of the headrest driving mechanism when

the had position detecting unit outputs a detection signal, further wherein the control circuit alter, wherein the control circuit stops the headrest when the predetermined state of approach or state of contact is detected by either of the sensors.

21. (New) A headrest controller as in claim 20, wherein the crash detection sensor is a sensor for predicting a crash to the rear of the vehicle and the control circuit is configured to return the headrest to an initial position by operating the headrest driving mechanism in the opposite direction when a predetermined time passes after the crash detecting sensor outputs a detection signal.

22. (New) A headrest controller as in claim 20, wherein the first sensor includes a plurality of sensors.

23. (New) A headrest controller as in claim 20, wherein the first sensor is a capacitive type sensor.

24. (New) A headrest controller as in claim 20, wherein the second sensor includes a plurality of sensors.

25. (New) A headrest controller as in claim 20, wherein first and second sensor each have a detection output signal, further wherein the control circuit stops the headrest based on the output detection signal of the sensor that occurs earlier in time.

26. (New) A headrest device comprising:
- a front portion and a back portion;
  - a head position detecting unit including a first sensor to detect a distance between an object moving towards the front portion and the front portion, and a second sensor for detecting contact between the object and the front portion; and
  - a control circuit to alter movement of the front portion based on a detection signal from the head position detecting unit.
27. (New) A headrest device as in claim 26, wherein the first sensor is a plurality of sensors.
28. (New) A headrest device as in claim 26, wherein the first sensor is a capacitive type sensor..
29. (New) A headrest device as in claim 26, wherein the second sensor is a plurality of sensors.
30. (New) A headrest device as in claim 26, wherein the second sensor is a contact type sensor.

31. (New) A headrest device as in claim 26, wherein the head position detecting unit is positioned in the front portion.

32. (New) A headrest device as in claim 26, wherein the control circuit includes a timer.

33. (New) A headrest device as in claim 32, wherein the timer is structured and configured to move the front portion after a predetermined amount of time.